

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: Thomas H. Roessler et al.
Serial No.: 09/216,545
Filed: December 18, 1998
For: PANT-LIKE DISPOSABLE
ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH
AN EASY OPENING FEATURE

Docket No.: 14,541
Group: 3761
Examiner: K. Reichle
Date: May 10, 2001

L. Parks
5-24-01
#13/IDS
(supl.)
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**Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)
Before Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance
Fee**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent applications to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,571 filed December 6, 1999, by Patrick S. McNichols for "METHOD OF MAKING AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH PREFASTENED SIDE PANELS AND ABSORBENT ARTICLES MADE BY THE SAME."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/326,300 filed June 4, 1999, by Jody D. Surprise et al. for "DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES HAVING AN ADJUSTABLE, PRETENSIONED WAISTBAND FASTENING SYSTEM."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/466,490 filed December 17, 1999, by Laura L. Elsberg et al. for "PRE-FASTENED DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES HAVING A STRETCH PANEL."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/527,776 filed March 17, 2000, by Yung H. Huang et al. for "A PRE-FASTENED ADJUSTABLE MECHANICAL FASTENER GARMENT."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/706,294 filed November 3, 2000, by Jennifer E. Pozniak et al. for "PANT-LIKE DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/675,544 filed September 28, 2000, by Jennifer E. Pozniak et al. for "PANT-LIKE DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH RELEASABLE SEAMS AND A FOLDED FASTENING FEATURE."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/465,853 filed December 17, 1999, by Laura L. Elsberg et al. for "DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES HAVING A STRETCH PANEL AND AN INTEGRATED WAIST SIZE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/706,150 filed November 3, 2000, by Jennifer E. Pozniak et al. for "PANT-LIKE DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH A RELEASABLE LINE OF WEAKNESS AND A FASTENER."

These applications are not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449; however, copies of these applications are provided herewith.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

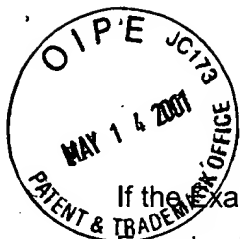
Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

A completed modified PTO-1449 form listing the documents to which the Examiner's attention is directed and copies of those documents are presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.



Serial No.: 09/216,545

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), please charge the \$180.00 fee for filing this Information Disclosure Statement to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875. Please charge any other prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875. A duplicate of this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted to aid the Examiner in charging the fee.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-2433.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS H. ROESSLER ET AL.

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